



Coffee Culture closes

BIA looks at options to fill empty building

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Stepping down

Rick Cowan leaves Fort Erie Race Track

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Cannons on a roll. See page 30.

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The end of an era

Sarah Ferguson Fort Erie Times

The demolition of Ridgeway Public School was well underway Tuesday as a crew began to demolish the back of the former school, which first opened in September 1920, and closed this June. A new school will be built in its place that will open in September 2016, combining students from Bertie Public School, Crystal Beach Public School and Ridgeway Public School.



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Coffee has ground to a halt

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

Coffee Culture has closed its doors for good in Fort Erie.

Surprised customers watched as staff suddenly closed Coffee Culture on Jarvis Street without any warning and abruptly removed all of the furniture inside the coffee shop last Tuesday afternoon.

Last Thursday, Ward 1 Coun. George McDermott learned that the Coffee Culture had permanently closed.

"A concerned resident who contacted the company received an e-mail after badgering them and it read 'Thank you for your e-mail. The Store in Fort Erie has closed. At least now we know the store is closed.'"

McDermott called the company last Wednesday but his phone calls were never returned.

"I am shocked they (Coffee Culture staff) didn't call me back. I know they were bombarded with calls."

The Fort Erie franchise was also removed from the company's list of stores on its website.

Long-time customer Debbie Selib-Haig visited the Jarvis Street store with her friend last Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. She ordered a hot drink and sat down to enjoy it when an employee told her coffee shop would be closing soon.

"He said 'I just want to let you

know that we're closing in 30 minutes for renovations.' I asked the guy about the renovations and he said they were going to be pulling the floor up, putting in a new floor and touching up the paint and fixing a few things."

Selib-Haig finished her drink and left the coffee shop to shop at some of the local businesses along Jarvis Street. When she returned, there was a sign on the door that said Coffee Culture was closed for renovations.

"When I walked by (the coffee shop) about a half an hour later, I watched the same young man, who told me the store was undergoing renovations, as he loaded everything onto a truck. I was shocked," Selib-Haig said. "Why would you be taking the cash register, the TV, and the outside patio tables if you're just doing renovations? Everything is gone."

Last Wednesday, Selib-Haig said another hand-written sign was placed on the door that said 'Sorry, Coffee Culture has closed.'

Selib-Haig looked forward to visiting Coffee Culture each week.

"I've been going there since it opened. I visit with people from church, or I go just to meet friends. Sometimes I'll go there for business appointments," Selib-Haig said.

"There are other places, like the new bakery on Jarvis Street. I suppose that's where people will go



Sarah Ferguson Fort Erie Times

The Coffee Culture on Jarvis Street closed its doors last Tuesday

now. I love what's happening on Jarvis Street with all the new businesses moving in. It's a shame this

happened."

Susan Jovanovic, a member of the Bridgeburg Business Improvement Association, saw staff remove everything from inside the store.

"Around noon (last) Tuesday, they had a truck and they were loading up furniture and I thought

'wow.' Then after that was done they locked the doors and put a sign on the window."

Jovanovic watched as the business' sign was removed and the art decals were stripped from the windows.

Even though the business has closed, McDermott said Jarvis Street is beginning to flourish.

"It (Jarvis Street) is good for business right now. There's a new bakery called Bella's, and there are places like the Bridgeburg Restaurant. We're still moving forward and we have a lot happening in the next few weeks and months," McDermott said.

"We're not discouraged by it, but (Coffee Culture shutting its doors) is a shocker."

Bridgeburg BIA member Katie Miller said the BIA will try to work with the owner of the former Coffee Culture building to encourage new business to move into it.

"This is a huge opportunity for more local businesses," Miller said. "Now we have a beautiful building that is available."

A Coffee Culture employee who was removing boxes from the business last Wednesday afternoon said she could not comment on the closure and directed media inquiries to the company's head office.

A representative from Coffee Culture did not return phone calls.

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Falls incumbent, challengers ready for election

Ray Spiteri
Postmedia Network

An 11-week federal election campaign was triggered this weekend by Conservative Prime Minister Stephen Harper, kicking off what is expected to be the costliest campaign ever, and the longest in more than a century.

And with the Conservatives, New Democrats and Liberals all having a legitimate shot at forming the next government, the three months leading up to the Oct. 19 federal election could turn into one of the most vicious and no holds-barred affairs in recent memory.

In the Niagara Falls riding, federal Liberal candidate Rob Planché said constituents are "very concerned" about the direction of the local and national economy and are "frustrated by the arrogance" of Harper.

And for those two reasons, among others, Planché thinks the riding, which has been dominated federally by conservative heavyweight Rob Nicholson since 2004, is "in play."

"Ten years is enough. That's what I'm bearing," said Planché.

"Over the last decade when the Conservatives were in

charge of the economy, we have not done well here in Niagara. Far too many good-paying jobs have been lost, far too many of our kids are leaving the area because there are far too few meaningful jobs with long-term opportunities and prospects. And you are handed a robust, vibrant economy and you starve it into a recession, something is definitely wrong."

"I think Mr. Nicholson has some problems out there." Rather than develop a comprehensive plan to improve the economic prospects of the riding, and the country as a whole, the Conservative government has focused on fear tactics, attacking their political opponents and "bribing" Canadians "with their own money," said Planché.

Planché said he has a three-part plan that he will unveil in more detail during the campaign.

He said the plan will invest in youth, provide security for seniors and invest in "infrastructure that matters to create all-paying jobs now and opportunities long into our future."

Nicholson has been Niagara Falls MP since 2004. He was re-elected in 2006, 2008 and 2011.

He has been one of Harper's most trusted senior colleagues, serving in several ministries, including minister of justice, defence and most recent, foreign affairs. He was also attorney general of Canada.

Nicholson said he believes his constituents are concerned about the economy and "I think they'll support our approach to it, which is keeping taxes low and investing in infrastructure, investing in the industries of Niagara (and) balancing the budget."

"They are concerned about national security, whether it's at home or abroad, and I believe that they'll come to the conclusion that Stephen Harper is the best one to ensure those."

Nicholson said the riding has benefited from countless federal infrastructure funding initiatives during the last 10 years, such as the Wego buses and museums in Niagara Falls. He also pointed to the government getting rid of the federal excise tax to support the Canadian wine industry and support for the auto industry.

The New Democratic Party has not yet named a candidate.

Former Niagara Falls Liberal MPP Kim Crotto, who is

currently a Niagara Falls city councillor, said he was approached by the NDP to consider running for the party's nomination in the riding. He has yet to make a public decision.

When asked about his opposing candidates, including the possibility of running against Crotto, Nicholson said he's just focused on his message.

"The election is on and I'm sure (the NDP will) come up a candidate soon, but I'm going forward, getting out my message to the people of Niagara Falls. I've been very grateful for the opportunities they've given me over the years and very proud to represent the people of Niagara."

Steven Soos, a 21-year-old Fort Erie resident, will represent the Green Party in the Niagara Falls riding.

Among his priorities, Soos said he wants to see the retirement age restored back to 65 and would fight against government health-care transfer cuts.

"The Conservatives cut \$36 billion in health care, which is very concerning because the Green Party wants to invest in preventative care, fighting against issues such as obesity before they happen," he said.

Soos said he would like to see the federal government endorse a senate private-members bill tabled by Liberal Wilfred Moore of Nova Scotia aiming to ban the breeding, acquisition and live captures of cetaceans across Canada.

During a recent interview with The Niagara Falls Review, Soos said he is also committed to the mandatory labelling of GMO foods; increasing environmental regulations for corporations who pollute and fighting for increased funding for post-secondary students.

Niagara Falls resident Paul

Martin will be the Libertarian candidate.

"I will be pledging half of the oversized MP salary back into the district in hopes to help cover taxpayer money lost paying for the election," said Martin.

He said Canadians are overly taxed and the current government has not been good stewards of the economy.

"The more tax breaks people have, the more they will have a successful life. The more lenient (taxes), the more room for Canadians to thrive."

ray.spiteri@sunmedia.ca

Falls riding candidates

Conservative: Rob Nicholson — MP since 2004, served as attorney general of Canada, minister in several departments, including justice, defence, foreign affairs

Green: Steven Soos — Welland resident, Trent University international development major, was young-est city council candidate for Welland in the 2014 municipal election

Liberal: Rob Planché -

worked as executive assistant to former Liberal MPP Kim Crotto for eight years, professional background in sales, marketing, government relations, photjournalism, served as municipal councillor in Oakville, regional councillor in Halton

Libertarian: Paul Martin — Niagara Falls resident, served as cook in Clifton Hill district for several years, active in local events

NDP: No candidate has been identified

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► POLICE BRIEF Fort Erie Pharmacy Robbed

Police are looking for a male suspect they say robbed a Fort Erie pharmacy Saturday evening.

At approximately 5:50 p.m., Niagara Regional Police said a masked man robbed Brodie's Drug Store on Ridge Rd.

Police said the man, who brandished an

undisclosed weapon, left the store with an undisclosed quantity of medication. Nobody was injured as a result of the incident.

Police describe the suspect as a male, approximately 5'10" with a slender to average build. He was wearing numerous layers of clothing, including a plaid-type jacket.

Police ask anyone with information to call them at 905-871-2300 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

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Rick Cowan

Special to The Times

Track executive steps down

Ray Spiteri
Postmedia Network

Rick Cowan has stepped down as chief operating officer of the Fort Erie Race Track after spending the past five years in that role.

He took charge of a new management team and the day-to-day operations at the historic border oval in 2010.

Cowan said he made the decision last year that he would step aside, but wanted to ensure the management team was ready with his replacement and that this year's Prince of Wales race went off successfully.

"I'm getting a little older and I've accomplished what I wanted to do," he said. "It's time for a change."

Cowan said when he first became COO, he wanted to develop "trust with the horsepeople at the track."

"Trust was a major issue at first. Some were skeptical that I was a Woodbine guy coming in, but I wanted to win them over, which I did." Under his leadership, the track made a number of positive changes, of which Cowan was the driving force, said Jim Thibert, chief executive officer of the Fort Erie Live Racing Consortium.

Those include Twilight Tuesday racing, the Tiki Bar construction and a number of special events, such as Legends Day and Circle the Course.

Thibert said it was Cowan's decision to move the Prince of Wales Stakes from the traditional Sunday afternoon to the popular Tuesday Twilight program, which has resulted in record wagering.

"It almost seems like

yesterday when I first talked to Rick about becoming chief operating officer at the Fort Erie Race Track," said Thibert.

"Our board of directors was delighted that a person with the strength of character, experience in the industry and the wealth of knowledge in the horse industry would consider working at Fort Erie Race Track."

"It has been a very stressful and difficult time for hawker over the past few years in Ontario and those attributes contributed monumentally to our planning and delivery of strategic to keep Fort Erie alive and kicking."

Thibert said although Cowan will be stepping away from his senior management role, he will continue to be actively involved in operations at the track, acting as a consultant for racing operations.

Cowan said his involvement in the track will be "minor," but that he will be there as a "soundboard," providing assistance in any way.

Tom Valiquette, the track's chief financial officer, will become the chief operating officer.

"Tom was, in fact, the first Fort Erie Live Racing Consortium hire," said Thibert. "He has worked closely with Rick over these past five years, overseeing the transition from Nordic Gaming Corp. and the three of us mounted the arguments and strategies to ensure funding to maintain the Fort Erie Race Track."

ray.spiteri@summedia.ca

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The
Fort Erie Times

Michael Cressman Advertising Director
Peter Conradi Regional editor
Sarah Ferguson Editor

Craitor will face questions if he runs

We get what the New Democrats are up to in Niagara Falls, and it makes some sense.

The party hasn't run a creditable federal candidate in the riding for as long as anyone can remember, but the dynamics have changed this time around. In some corners, the NDP has a real shot at forming the next federal government after the October election, so they figured it was time to get serious in the Falls and come up with more than a sacrificial lamb to face Conservative incumbent Rob Nicholson.

Enter Kim Craitor, the name almost no one expected to hear.

Craitor is well known and generally popular in Niagara Falls. He sat for three consecutive terms as the Niagara Falls Liberal MPP before abruptly resigning mid-term in 2013, saying only that he was mentally exhausted. Craitor was a city councillor from 1990-2003 and often said those were the most enjoyable days of his political life. So he returned to city hall in last October's municipal election, following a brief recess from public life.

While at Queens Park, Craitor honed a reputation for speaking his mind, not always a popular thing in party politics. He broke ranks on everything from policy to the colour of his campaign signs and literature. His penchant for turning up at local birthday parties and

backyard barbecues played well with the constituents, if not necessarily the back-room winks.

So while we understand why the NDP suddenly wants to wrap a populist like Craitor in orange—he was a former executive director of the Niagara Falls Employment Help Centre, and would easily fit with the party's left-leaning ideals—were not quite sure why Craitor is considering a leap to the national stage.

If he couldn't handle the frustration of melding Queens Park with Niagara Falls concerns, wait until he tries that in Ottawa.

Craitor's resignation from the provincial Liberals tossed the riding into an expensive byelection. Less than two years later, he is suddenly ready to take on the House of Commons? How does he explain that?

Further, how does he explain quitting in 2013?

The municipal electorate didn't seem to care last year. But we have a feeling Nicholson, if he feels sufficiently threatened by a newly minted New Democrat, may bring up the subject. Same for Liberal nominee Ron Plamche, who incidentally used to be MPP Craitor's executive assistant and is not happy his former boss might step into the ring.

So while Craitor may be a shrewd choice as a candidate for the NDP like most politicians, he also comes with some baggage.

—Postmedia Network

Do you remember?



I guess last week's photo of the baseball game really was too close to call as we received no messages identifying the players. This week, love is truly in the air with this charming photo of a wedding party. There are no clues on the back to help us identify this photo, which would have been so important to the family. If you know anyone in the photo, where it was taken, or any other information, please call the Fort Erie Historical Museum at 905-894-5322 or e-mail museum@forterie.on.ca.

Letters to the Editor

School board fees a cash grab

If Catholic school board director John Crocco and Chair Paul MacNeil think that "the economy of our region depends on excellent school systems" and that the multitude of young families will move into the Niagara Peninsula because of excellent school systems, I have news for you. The multitude will move

back here if there are jobs available and because of lower price housing.

Your EDC's fees (educational development charges) will just add to the stifling of new home builds in Niagara and ultimately the decisions of families not to invest in Niagara. Isn't it a telling tale that the public school board is able to build new schools throughout Niagara without this money grab? The DSNB has closed half-empty buildings, sold the properties and presented solid business plans to the prov-

ince to get funding for their new builds without EDCs.

Maybe the Catholic board should follow the direction of the DSNB by using the properties they, or the Catholic church, already own for their new builds instead of sticking it to the area municipalities, and new home owners who we desperately need in Niagara.

Come to think of it, perhaps this is the time to finally have one school board system in Ontario under the leadership of those who know how

to save money and run a system properly.

Now, that will save millions of tax dollars while giving future generations of students a solid education.

Alex Bradman
St. Catharines

Every city should have a hospital

I read the article about a new south Niagara hospital for Niagara Falls. That

city should have one, but don't call it south Niagara.

They should put a map of Niagara on a table for clarification of how the boundary lines or limits are within each city. Niagara Falls is to the east of St. Catharines. North of that is Niagara-on-the-Lake while Welland, Port Colborne and Wainfleet are south of Niagara Falls. Kevin Smith of the Niagara Health System mentioned closing all Niagara south hospitals to be replaced by two urgent-care centres and the new

hospital in Niagara Falls. This would create major run-around problems.

For example, Welland has over 50,000 in population, not including the surrounding areas. For emergencies, you would have to go out of your own city and that could end up deadly if there is a serious car accident with life-threatening injuries. There needs to be health care readily available for every city in Niagara.

Roscoe Reilly
Welland

HOW TO CONTACT US

Michael Cressman • Advertising Director • michael.cressman@summedia.ca • 905-359-5711 ext. 53011
Sarah Ferguson • Editor • sarah.ferguson@summedia.ca • 905-871-3100 ext. 524207
Myra Robertson • Sales Manager • myra.robertson@summedia.ca • 905-871-3100 ext. 524202

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Library offers romantic adaptation of Sparks novel

Amey Roebuck
Special to The Times

Nicholas Sparks writes some of the most popular fiction in North America.

Eleven of his eighteen romantic-drama novels have been adapted to film, and our movie this evening at the Centennial branch of the Fort Erie Public Library is one of them. *The Largest Ride* centers on the star-crossed love affair between a former champion bull rider seeking a comeback, and a college student who is about to embark upon her dream job in New York City's art world. Conflicting paths and ideals test their relationship, but Sophia and Luke are inspired by an older, wiser man who shares his own story.

Tonight's film begins at 6:30 p.m. An encore presentation will be held at the Crystal Ridge branch at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 11.

Did you know that Sparks has also written non-fiction? *His Three Weeks with My Brother* is part of the library collection.

Next week is the last week of regular summer children's programming, and kids even want to miss the Do It Yourself sessions, with the theme "Rapid Prototyping." Have you seen the library's 3D printer in action? Apprentice

prototypes will be given three different projects, and one of them will involve this exciting, versatile technology. Do It Yourself happens at 10:45 a.m. on Monday at the Stevensville branch, at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at Crystal Ridge, and at the Centennial branch at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 13. The featured artist for Play On Art on Monday at 2:30 p.m. at the Centennial branch is Eric Carle. A favourite of children for generations, this creator of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *The Very Busy Spider* illustrates his many books in a distinctive style. As Carle explains it, he uses "collages made with my own hand-painted tissue papers, a technique many children have replicated and enjoyed in their classrooms and at home." Tickets are \$2 for Play On Art and are Do It Yourself events.

Movies for children and families this weekend include *Monster in Paris* tomorrow at 10:30 a.m. at the Centennial branch, *Kung Fu Panda* on Saturday at Crystal Ridge, beginning at 10:30 a.m., and *Alpha and Omega* at the Centennial branch on Saturday at 2:30 p.m.

Writers' Group on Wednesday, Aug. 12 and the Speculative Fiction Book Group on Thursday, Aug. 13 are both

opportunities for teens and adults to meet to share common interests and discussion. Writers' Group, which begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Centennial branch, offers tips from a published author, special challenges, and the chance for budding writers to help each other over the rough spots. Speculative fiction, meeting at 7 p.m. at the Crystal Ridge branch, is a time for readers of science fiction, fantasy and dark literature.

Tomorrow is Lighthouse Day, and as we have the historic Point Abino Lighthouse nearby, people may be interested in some of the resources in the library collection relating to these beacons of safety for water navigation. The Point Abino Lighthouse Preservation Society provides a subscription to *Lighthouse Digest*, a bimonthly publication with news and pictures, available at the Crystal Ridge branch. Larry Wright's Great Lakes Lighthouses Encyclopedia is fascinating for anyone with an interest in these historic structures, as is Eastern Great Lakes Lighthouses: Ontario, Erie, and Huron by Bruce Roberts. Happy Lighthouse Day! Amey Roebuck is the community services coordinator at the Fort Erie Public Library.

Beware of the snapping turtle

Earl Plato
Special to The Times

With sun real warm out. It's been late on lotion and a bottle of water, I headed out for Six Mile Creek Bridge.

On this late July scorcher, I moved my trusty Rambler at top speed—six miles per hour.

The slight breeze helped. Usually, with my good binoculars, I would spot several turtles for sighting birds. Not this day.

Keep moving! I parked the Rambler on the bridge and started viewing the placid water.

No little turtle sunning this day.

I perused from both sides of the bridge. There was a movement on the water on the north side close to the right side. It was a snapping turtle's head.

I thought so. This was almost the same spot where I saw a snapper before. That snapper was fully exposed—a large snapper. It was the size of a dinner plate.

This day, I waited but no further sighting. How old are these turtles at Six Mile Creek?

They live many years. The snapping turtle's tail is unique. It has sharp ridges running along its length. It is as long as the shell.

A snapping turtle's mouth it shaped like a beak with no teeth. It is powerful so beware.

I saw snapping turtles growing up with my closest look at one was at



A turtle.

Longmeadow Farm outside of Ridgeway. I was at the Bassett Pond nearby when my late father-in-law, Sid Kew, brought me the injured turtle. Its shell (carapace) had been cracked by the heavy truck's tires. Sid took a small branch near its mouth. In a flash, it cut the half-inch twig in two. He placed the uninjured turtle in the pond.

Snapping turtles cannot withdraw their head and feet under its shell like other turtles. Snapping turtles make up their lack of body armour with an aggressive temperament.

I did more research after that snapping turtle took all of the five little wood ducks at the Stevensville Conservation Pond.

Here are some facts about it. Snappers live only in fresh or brackish water. Six Mile Creek is a perfect setting.

Besides man, they have a few natural predators. They are often hit by cars and trucks when searching for new ponds or nesting sites. In a natural setting, they can live up to 30 years, but in captivity, some have lived closely to 50 years.

Snappers will eat nearly

anything they can get their powerful jaws around. That includes my poor little wood ducks.

They feed on dead animals, insects, fish, birds, ducks, small animals, frogs and toads. Surprisingly, they eat large amounts of aquatic plants.

The little mud turtles at Six Mile Creek beware! Snapping turtles kill other turtles by biting off their heads.

I wonder if that is why I haven't seen mud turtles at the creek.

Vulnerability? Adult snappers—few animals will prey on them.

Attacked, they will fight back ferociously.

However, the eggs and hatchlings can be eaten by larger turtles, Great blue herons, crows, raccoons, skunks, foxes, bullfrogs, water snakes and fish such as large mouth bass.

I have seen snapping turtle egg sites. There are dozens of eggs in one location. Chances of survival are pretty good.

Be curious in nature, eh. Earl Plato is a Fort Erie resident, nature lover and local historian.

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From the gardener's journal: Find relief in your garden

Ruth Vold Markle
Special to The Times

Tell the truth. After all the rain and cool of spring, even a cool July day, aren't you glad the heat and sunshine are here?

I know I am. For years, I worked in all weathers and kept going without complaint, but my favorite time is now—beautiful morning sunrises and gorgeous sunsets and sunshine in between. For those of you good folk who embrace the cool, your day will come. Right now it is for those of us who love the sunshine and warmth.

That warmth and sunshine does bring issues. Sunburn and possibly skin rashes or reactions to insect bites. I know this pain but there are simple healing aids from the garden. These will cool and

soothe and help with the discomfort.

Sunburn soothers include Calendula.

Calendula is an excellent soother. Use two teaspoons of dried flowers in one cup of hot water for 10 minutes.

Szizin and chill, using with a soft cloth on areas of skin and it will ease the discomfort for eight hours.

St. John's Wort Cooled: Steep two teaspoons dried flowers in one cup hot water for 10 minutes. The water will turn red. Strain and cool the water, apply to skin with soft cloth. Should ease the discomfort for 10 hours.

White Vinegar Soother: Using equal parts of vinegar and cool water you can make a spritz that will soothe the worst sunburn. White vinegar will not discolour clothes and you can think French fries while you

are soothed!

Skin Rashes: Use cool cucumber, apply slices of cooled cucumber right to your rash or purple cucumber in the blender, apply mash to the skin and cover with a loosely woven cloth, rest a bit and you can repeat treatment often until the itch has subsided.

Clay cure: Mix water and green clay powder to make a little paste and apply to itchy skin. This is especially helpful with kiddies, as the clay draws away the resin that is causing the itch. It feels cool as well. Many health food stores stock the powder for mixing.

Oat Break: Add oats to a cool bath. Add 1/2 to one cup cut oats into cheese-cloth or clean athletic sock, tie and use the cloth sock as a wash cloth, this helps soften and soothe skin

irritations.

Time Tested Tea: Black or green tea in a tea bag moistened applied to the skin itch will bring quick soothing. If you make a pot of tea and allow it to cool you can also use the cooled tea to relieve itching. Tea can stain, so be careful around fabric with the tea.

This year as I worked outside in all the mosquitoes I found if I put a little menthol oil or ointment on my skin the mosquitoes passed me by. If you are okay with the menthol scent, this seems to be the best remedy I have found for keeping myself mosquito free!

Hoping this is a lovely week for you and yours. Stay safe on the trails, at the beach and in the sun. Seize the moments while you can.

Ruth Vold Markle is a member of the Fort Erie Horticulture Club.

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Health Corner

Halloween Scare!

Halloween has already come and gone. Now all of our kids have a basket full of candies. So it is a perfect time to discuss what to do.



Dr. John Inigo

Don't panic. Let me help you a bit.

First, let's review the deadly effects of sugars. Sugars cause cavities, obesity, diabetes, heart diseases, hyperactivity followed by tiredness.

Some suggest sugar also cause Alzheimer's disease. However, my concern is tooth decay and consequent cycles of root canals, tooth loss and large expenses to replace.

Second, let's review what to do with the candies. If you missed our Halloween

candy buy back, don't panic. Call our office and we will be happy to arrange the replacements with Xylitol candies which help fight all the negative effects of sugars.

Third, if you cannot convince your children to give up the candies, here is what I would do. Make a deal with them so that they can eat only a certain amount of candies a day. Controlling the frequency of the sugar exposure can reduce the effect of the tooth decaying bacteria

by allowing more time for your body to restore the damaged conditions.

Finally, brush and floss after eating candies. And do not have candies in bed. If you do not clean your teeth after you eat your candies, you will get a maximum dose of a sugar attack while you are sleeping.

Dr. John Inigo is a practicing general dentist in Fort Erie and Ridgeway, Ontario. He can be reached at Inigo Bertie Dentistry, 905.871.2903 or Inigo Ridgeway Dentistry, 905.894.5555. For further information and discussion, please visit his office at www.inigodentistry.com

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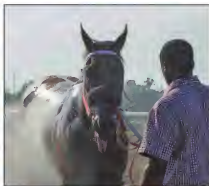
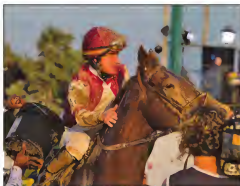
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Prince of Wales Stakes in pictures

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A look back
at the week
in Niagara

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Siege to draw crowds to Old Fort Erie this weekend

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

The sounds of cannon fire will mark the 201st anniversary of the Siege of Fort Erie. Travis Hill, interim manager of Old Fort Erie, said

preparations for Canada's largest battle re-enactment, which will take place this Saturday and Sunday, are well underway.

"For 30 straight years, we've been blowing up the fort and we have wonderful

re-enactors. This is a tradition that we hope to carry on for future years," Hill said. The event includes battle re-enactments where hundreds of re-enactors will participate in Drummond's Night Assault.

The events begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday when the public is invited to visit the fort and camps on the battlegrounds. Battles will be held during the day and a lantern tour will follow at 9 p.m.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday at 10 a.m. to honour all of the soldiers who fell in battle. The last battle re-enactment of the weekend, the American Sortie, will be held on Sunday at 1 p.m. Hill expects "a couple thousand visitors" to attend the fort over the course of Saturday and Sunday.

Admission to Old Fort Erie's day programs or evening lantern tour is \$12.25 for adults, \$7.95 for children 12 and under and is free. For more information visit www.niagaraparksheriage.com.
sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca



Postmedia Network

Re-enactors staged the siege of Old Fort Erie in this file photo.

Saturday, Aug. 8

- 10 a.m.: Fort and camps open to the public
- 11 a.m.: South Field – Major Buck's Surrender and 'Stars and Stripes' run up
- Noon: Inside Fort – Uniforms of the War of 1812
- 1 p.m.: South Field – British artillery demonstration
- 2 p.m.: South Field – Battle
- 3 p.m.: Mini-Militia (for children)
- 4 p.m.: Inside Fort – U.S. Artillery Demonstration
- 5 p.m.: Fort and Camps will be closed to the public
- 8 p.m.: South Field – Drummond's night assault on the Fort
- 9 p.m.: In the Fort – Lantern tours – 'After the Battle' see the effects of the failed British attack.

Sunday, Aug. 9

- 10 a.m.: Fort and camps open to the public
- 10 a.m.: Memorial service in the South Field
- 1 p.m.: South Field – 'U.S. Sortie'
- 2 p.m.: Mini-Militia (for children)
- 2 p.m.: Artillery Barrage
- 4 p.m.: Camp closed to the public
- 5 p.m.: Fort Closed

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Special to The Times

Local bands will have a chance to play during the 9th annual Music Fest Saturday in Crystal Beach.

Local talent featured in 9th annual Music Fest

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

Fort Erie's top musicians are set to take the stage along the Crystal Beach waterfront.

Local bands Amber Reigns, Best Behavior, Guilty Pleasures and Paul Brady will headline the 9th annual Fort Erie Music Fest on Saturday, Aug. 8.

The free annual concert will be held at the

Crystal Beach Waterfront Park Pavilion from 1 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

"The event is designed to showcase live music," said concert organizer Lloyd McGuigan.

"As avid music lovers, musicians and local promoters, we wanted to create a small festival in Fort Erie where local musicians and bands could have a venue to perform, gain experience

and promote their music in a positive and encouraging environment."

McGuigan said the concert is not meant to be a competition but an opportunity for the "community of Fort Erie to come and hear the many talented musicians we have in our own backyard in a great outdoor venue."

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

Music Fest Line-up

- 1 p.m. Paul Brady
- 1:45 p.m. Best Behavior
- 2:45 p.m. One Dollar Bill with Special Guest Max Hiller
- 4:15 p.m. Highway Eleven
- 5:30 p.m. Reggie Storm
- 6:15 p.m. Guilty Pleasures
- 7:30 p.m. Carina
- 8:15 p.m. The Reikston Young Band
- 10 p.m. Amber Reigns

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Niagara woman is region's first case of West Nile virus

Alison Langley
Postmedia Network

A woman from Niagara Falls is the region's first laboratory-confirmed case of West Nile virus of 2015.

The woman, whose name is not being released, is recovering at home.

"We now have human cases in Ontario, with August and September being the highest risk period for the West Nile virus infection," said Dr. Mustafa Hirji, associate medical officer of health for Niagara.

"I encourage residents to take precautions to

avoid being bitten by mosquitoes."

Although most people with the virus do not get sick, 20% of people suffer flu-like symptoms and fatigue, and 1% suffers serious infections of the brain such as meningitis. Fever, severe headache, body aches, confusion, weakness and sensitivity to light are the most common symptoms of a severe infection.

To reduce the risk of being exposed to the virus, an infection caused from a bite from an infected mosquito, Niagara public health advises the following to prevent mosquito bites.

- drain standing water around the home where mosquitoes may breed
- repair damaged doors and window screens
- avoid mosquito-infested areas
- wear long-sleeve shirts, hats, long pants, socks and shoes.
- use insect repellants containing Deet or Icaridin. Follow manufacturer's instructions.

For more information, call 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7767 or visit www.niagara.region.ca/health.

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Beat the heat



Sarah Ferguson Fort Erie Times

Youth at the Summer Heat program enjoyed an educational camp experience last week at Peace Bridge Public School. The program, which was hosted by the District School Board of Niagara, ran for two weeks at Peace Bridge and Crystal Beach Public Schools. The program is free but limited space is available each year. Students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 participate in literacy, numeracy and aboriginal-based activities.

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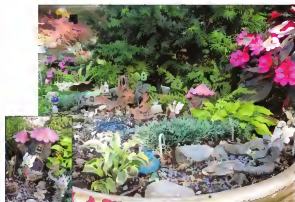
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THIS NEWSPAPER**



Communities-in-Bloom is committed to fostering civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification through community involvement and the challenge of a national program, with a focus on enhancing green spaces in communities.

Some Enchanted Garden

While the 2015 Communities-in-Bloom Awards have been awarded, summer is only halfway over - many beautiful and novel gardens still remain and deserve to be highlighted. Fairy themed gardens are making a big comeback so this miniature realm created by Brian S. of Ott Rd, Stevens- ville is a perfect inspiration for those looking to add whimsy and allure to their yards. This whole garden has been done in a container—fitting that a tiny kingdom exists in a tiny space!



Photos Courtesy of P. Beeson



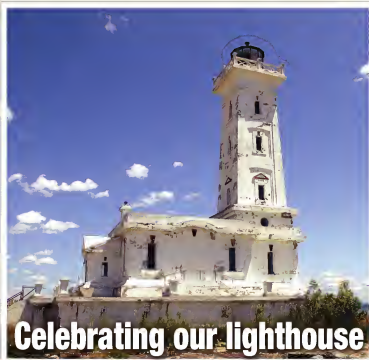
To find out more about us, "Like" our Facebook page, Fort Erie Communities in Bloom or visit us at www.forterie.ca



Sounds from the Big Band era

Special to The Times

Back by popular demand, the Toronto All Star Big Band will perform music from the big band era of the 1930s and 1940s at the Crystal Beach Waterfront Concert Series on Sunday, Aug. 9. The free concert series, hosted by the Friends of Crystal Beach, is held outdoors on the lawn overlooking Lake Erie, 3875 Terrace Ln., at 7 p.m. in Crystal Beach. Bring a blanket or a chair.



Celebrating our lighthouse

Special to The Times

In recognition of International Lighthouse Day on Aug. 7, the Town of Fort Erie has named Saturday as Fort Erie Lighthouse Day. The Point Abino Lighthouse Association will mark the occasion with tours of the historic lighthouse. The Point Abino Lighthouse was built in 1918 in response to increased traffic at the east end of Lake Erie. Four tours are scheduled for Saturday, beginning at 10 a.m. Tickets are \$6 per adult, \$3 per youth ages 12 to 16 and children under 12 are free. For more information call 905-671-1600 ext. 2431.





Harry Rescortini Special to the Times

Approximately 100 people attended A Taste of Cuba, a barbecue hosted by the Canadian-Cuban Friendship Association of Niagara in Ridgeway. The event, which marked the 70th anniversary of peaceful relations between Canada and Cuba, was well attended by political dignitaries including MP Malcolm Allen, MP Dean Allison, Regional chairman Alan Caslin and Welland Ward 3 Coun. John Mastroianni. Toronto Consul-General Javier Domokos Ruiz and his staff, Ingrid Iquierdo (left) and Tahimi Suarez, were also on hand to discuss Cuba's latest developments.

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Making a difference

Sarah Ferguson Fort Erie Times

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Vendors needed for Taste of Fort Erie

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

Calling all foodies, the Bridgeburg Business Improvement Association needs you.

The Bridgeburg BIA is hosting the inaugural Taste of Fort Erie on Saturday, Sept. 26 on Jarvis Street and the organization is still looking for vendors.

"This is the last call for vendors," said Bridgeburg BIA member Katie Miller. "We have a list of 45 vendors right now and we are looking for more."

The deadline to apply is Aug. 15 and the registration cost is \$50 for restaurant vendors and \$25 for retail vendors.

Miller estimates between 2,000 and 4,000 people will attend the festival, which will feature a wide variety of foods.

"So far, we have pet treats, pizza, tacos, soups, Chinese food, chili, ribs and sausages and a lot more."

With live music, a kids' zone, a beer tent, retail and a chance to create graffiti art on vehicles, the Taste of Fort Erie will offer something for all ages.

"There really is something for everyone and we'll have more to announce in the next couple months."

Vendors can apply to participate in the Taste of Fort Erie by visiting www.tasteofforterie.com and filling out an application.

For more information about the Taste of Fort Erie e-mail the Bridgeburg BIA at info@bridgeburgdistrict.com or visit www.tasteofforterie.com.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca



Who: The Bridgeburg Business Improvement Association
What: The Bridgeburg BIA is hosting the Taste of Fort Erie
When: Saturday, Sept. 26 from noon to 11 p.m.
Where: Jarvis Street in Fort Erie

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Brick for people who don't follow the rules

A brick for beach goers who bring alcoholic drinks and dogs on the beach. There are rules for a reason and you should follow them.

Brick for cyclists who speed on trail

A brick for the cyclists on the Friendship Trail that speed by the walkers and don't let you know they are coming. They not only scare me but they make my poor dog panic and if she happens to wander in front of them, she would be hit. Please have the courtesy to let walkers know you are approaching them it just takes a few words and slow down a little.

Brick for drivers who park where they aren't allowed to

A brick for the people who continually park in places where they are not supposed to. If people continue to park in our exit, we will have to put up a 'no parking sign' and have cars towed when we shouldn't have to.

Bouquet for person who gives free water to dogs

A bouquet for the person who gives free doggy water to dogs on Daytona Drive.

Bouquet for neighbours

A bouquet for our new found friends and neighbors who welcomed us to the neighborhood with open arms. We want to let you know we feel so blessed and grateful to have met you. A huge bouquet of thanks. We loves all the activities and fun and laughs.

Bouquet for drug store

A bouquet for our local downtown drug store for always being so understanding with constant changes of medicine and for giving such great health advice.

Bouquet for a mechanic

A bouquet for my mechanic. I had some repairs done recently and was pleasantly surprised to pick up my car totally clean and the interior vacuumed. Great customer service.

Bouquet for a dad

A bouquet for my dad, who came over the other night before dinner just so he could fix my washing machine. I have the best dad ever. If it wasn't for him, my clothes would be pretty stinky. Thank you!

Bouquet for my husband

A bouquet for my husband because he changed the cat litter. It's a stinky job but somebody has to do it. I'm glad it's you!

Send your bricks & bouquets to:
sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca or mail them to Fort Erie Times, 336 Central Ave., Fort Erie Ont., L2A 3T6

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Municipalities teaming up against school board development charges

Allan Benner
Postmedia Network

Half of Niagara's municipalities are in opposition to educational development charges being imposed by the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

Port Colborne, Pelham, Port Erie, Thorold, Wainfleet and Niagara-on-the-Lake — six of Niagara's 12 municipalities — each launched appeals against the Catholic school board's development charges bylaw, prior to the Ontario Municipal Board's deadline last Monday.

But Port Colborne Mayor John Maloney said he's surprised other municipalities are not taking action, too.

"I know it was an unpopular item at the time," Maloney said.

When contacted last Tuesday morning, the OMB did not have a complete list of municipalities that appealed the school board's development charges because the information had yet to be compiled.

The Catholic school board's educational development charges bylaw came into effect June 22, meaning individuals and developers would be charged \$172 charges for homes built within the former Welland County boundaries, and \$186 for residential development in the old Lincoln County boundaries.

They are among the lowest educational development charges in the province, pointed out school

board education director John Crocco.

But municipalities like Port Colborne and Wainfleet have placed moratoriums on their own development charges in the hope of spurring on development. And representatives of those communities feel the school board's actions fly in the face of their efforts.

"We want to encourage development and the citizens of Port Colborne are making a sacrifice with this moratorium," Maloney said. "And then the school board went under the wire and stifled what we are trying to stimulate."

Crocco said the school board is trying to promote growth in Niagara, too.

"The economy of our region depends on excellent school systems," he said, adding funds collected through the development charges will allow the school board to meet growth needs throughout the region.

Last, Port Colborne council approved a motion directing city staff to move forward with its OMB appeal and to coordinate resources with other municipalities that are also appealing the school board's bylaw.

"I would think that the strength of numbers will certainly have a bearing," Maloney said, referring to teaming up with the other communities.

He said it might also help reduce the costs of the legal action.

"Most likely we'll be using the same legal council and that will

save costs for all the communities involved and then we'll proceed," he said.

Thorold finance director Maria Maloney said her city council approved launching an OMB appeal at its July 14 meeting, and the city is also interested in teaming up with other municipalities.

"We're looking into that," she said. "We're just trying to schedule a meeting with all the parties."

Wainfleet's acting clerk Sarah Smith said township council held a special meeting last Thursday to ensure the township's appeal could be submitted before the OMB deadline.

And like Port Colborne and other communities, she said Wainfleet too is hoping to save costs by teaming up.

"Staff was also directed to work with other municipalities in terms of establishing a single legal representation for all of the municipalities appealing on the same basis," she said.

Niagara-on-the-Lake also approved its OMB appeal last Monday, while Pelham and Port Erie approved appealing the school board bylaw earlier in the month.

Maloney said Port Colborne councillors are also concerned that funds raised by the school board in Port Colborne will "go into a larger pot," and could pay for school projects in other parts of Niagara.

"It's one thing to be leaved a charge for your own community, but it doesn't sit well with many people that these funds could

never come to Port Colborne, or may not come for years," he said.

Maloney said he'd prefer not to have to bring the issue to the OMB, hoping the school board will reconsider its decision to implement the development charges.

"Nobody wins when you go to court, but sometimes you have to take a stand," he said.

School board Chair Rev. Paul MacNeil said he hopes to continue working with municipalities to resolve concerns.

"It is important for us to continue to work together as a community for our students," he said in an e-mail. "I would also like to point out that we are aware of both the costs associated with land purchasing and site servicing for schools, as well as the need to stimulate growth in our region."

Crocco said the board held an open process while drafting its development charges bylaw, including meetings with municipal representatives and two public meetings to allow individuals, political leaders and developers to share their thoughts about the bylaw.

"It was very open and very transparent," Crocco said. "Every concern that was submitted as part of our vetting process ... and everything that was suggested as part of the consultation process was brought to our board and was taken seriously and it was weighed carefully in our decision."

He said there are also a lot of

misconceptions regarding the educational development charges, such as a belief that the funds are used to build new schools. In fact, school boards can only use the funds to purchase of school sites and related costs such as bringing services to the property.

Crocco said a fact sheet regarding educational development charges as well as a list of all the steps the board took as part of the process of developing the bylaw has been posted on the school board's website, www.niagaracatholic.ca/.

"We want to continue to work cooperatively with all 12 municipalities and the Region of Niagara," Crocco added.

Asked about the city's grounds for appealing the school board's decision as well as the chances of success, Maloney said that will be up to the city's lawyer to determine.

"We require a legal opinion from a lawyer grounded in OMB hearings and municipal law," he said. "We'll follow their lead certainly on the face of it. It does not sit well with the municipal corporations that have sort of picked up the gauntlet, and we'll wait to see what we're advised and what our chances of success are and take it from there."

Meanwhile, Crocco said school board staff are currently reviewing the OMB appeals and will report to the board at an upcoming meeting.

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Protest at Marineland as government seeks input

Ray Spiteri
Postmedia Network

Animal-rights activists say momentum is on their side, but they're not quite over the finish line just yet.

The second annual Free Kiska demonstration took place outside Marineland Saturday between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., in Niagara Falls.

Activists gathered to speak out against animals in captivity, particularly Kiska, who lives at Marineland and is Canada's only captive killer whale.

The demonstration, organized by Niagara resident Mike Garrett, was held a day after the Ontario government invited the public to provide input on its new proposed standards of care for marine mammals such as killer whales, dolphins, beluga whales, sea lions and walrus.

Until Sept. 14, members of the public can visit the province's regulatory registry to comment on new standards for facilities that keep marine mammals in captivity.

Those interested in making comments can visit www.ontariocanada.com/registry.

The proposed regulations include rules about water quality, testing, nutrition, reproduction, handling and transportation, light and noise exposure and enclosures; requirements to establish animal-welfare committees and detailed animal-management

plans; specifications about information management and record keeping; provisions for access to a veterinarian and mandatory post-mortem examinations.

The province said the enhanced standards reflect advice from an expert report it commissioned, led by Dr. David Rosen, a University of British Columbia marine biologist, as well as input from a technical advisory group, made up of veterinary, animal-welfare, industry and enforcement organizations.

The Ontario government also recently passed Bill 60, the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Amendment Act, which immediately prohibited the acquisition and breeding of orcas.

However, if someone owned an orca in Ontario on March 22, 2015, they may continue to possess that orca.

Garrett said as long as Kiska "continues to be captive in solitary confinement at Marineland, we'll be back every year."

"Staying at Marineland is certainly not an ideal situation for this animal. They claim that she can't be moved, she's elderly. She is not elderly by wild orca standards," he said.

"These zoos and aquariums move animals like her all the time and I think the best interest for Kiska would be to move her to a sanctuary. People say, 'Well we don't have those yet,' well we can start to create one."

"This business has made millions of dollars off of Kiska. Why can't they put millions of dollars towards retiring her to

a sea pen? And if that can't be done, then she needs to be moved to a facility where she can be with her own kind. These are extremely social animals."

Garrett said it's "extremely satisfying" to see politicians taking an interest in animal-captivity issues.

"When you compare this message to where it was three years ago, it's extremely satisfying because what you are seeing is a paradigm shift in the public opinion. People are not just coming to the park to protest, they're writing letters, they're speaking to their politicians."

"We've got political change on the federal level, on the provincial level, coming from the senate. We're finally starting to see the change that we've been asking for for decades."

Kathy Bishop, who came from Orangethorpe to attend the demonstration, said she is against all theme parks that have captive animals, not just Marineland.

"We need to get Kiska, all the belugas, all the walrus, all the dolphins — they have to go home," she said.

Rhine Donovan, founder of a human and animal liberation group called Compassionate Citizens of Western New York, said demonstrations will continue until captivity is "completely eradicated."

"It's not fair and it's shameful as a human species that we would even take another living, breathing, thinking, feeling creature from its natural habitat away from its family and forced to live a life in

isolation," said the Buffalo resident.

Mark Auld, founder of the Canadian Alliance for the Protection of Cetaceans, brought his family to the demonstration Saturday.

He said they also protested this winter at SeaWorld in Orlando, Fla.

"It's a money-driven, greed scheme as far as I am concerned," said Auld.

In a statement to The Niagara Falls Review, Marineland said it will review the province's proposed standards "carefully and will provide appropriate comment in due course."

"Marineland strongly supports the government of Ontario's efforts to put in place strong, science-based standards of care for all marine mammals. Marineland will continue to support the government of Ontario's efforts and work with the government to put in place appropriate standards."

In a separate news release, Marineland said Kiska is a 40-year-old female killer whale who has lived at Marineland for decades.

"For a killer whale, she is now quite elderly and enjoys a pace and activities consistent with her advanced years," said Marineland.

"Some extremists have suggested she is young, in an effort to force her to be moved, for their own ideological reasons, and without any regard for the truth or her health."

Marineland said the studying of killer whales started "seriously" in 1973, so lifespan data is quite new. Of the 500

whales studied in the wild, Marineland said 97% lived to be less than 50.

The theme park said a major independent scientific study of killer whales from 1995-2004 found the mean life expectancy for killer whales in the wild is 30 years for females and 19 years for males.

"With the best scientific data we have, we believe Kiska to be quite elderly," said Marineland. "While elderly, Kiska is presently quite happy and content."

Marineland said Kiska lives in a two-pool complex which is, by multiple times, the largest pool housing a killer whale in the world.

The theme park said all the water in her pool is circulated, filtered, cleaned, and returned to her pool every three hours. Marineland said this is accomplished by a modern, computerized, multi-million dollar water control system, which was independently inspected and approved by a leading independent engineering firm.

Marineland said all of Kiska's records are reviewed by qualified veterinarians and

have been inspected by the College of Veterinarians, experts from the OSPCA, and government appointed independent experts.

"All found her to be in good health for her age. To be clear, Kiska receives excellent, constant care and attention. Kiska receives a full examination every day to monitor her physical health. Kiska receives as good or better health care than almost any person," said Marineland.

"Extremists call for Kiska to be moved to a sea pen in the home she has contentedly lived in for decades. That is cruel, dangerous and unhealthy. The collective view of those who care for her is a move will kill her."

Auld said he disagrees with Marineland when the park describes Kiska as elderly.

"There is an orca on the west coast night now named Granny who is 104-years-old, lives in the wild and has great-great-grandchildren, so 40 years old, maybe in captivity is old, but not in the wild," said Auld.

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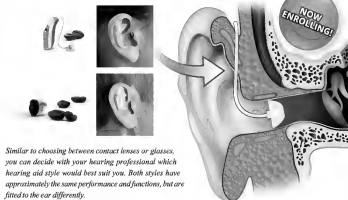
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Rio Vista Retirees

Heat wave conditions of 35°C did not prevent 53 Rio Vista Retirees last Wednesday from hitting the links and testing their skills.

The event this time was a two-man scramble with a closest to the pin contest on the par three seventh hole. The weekly draws were held and the 50/50 money went to Romeo Denomme, who also took

the money for closest to the pin.

The mystery prize went to Dennis Ferdinand. Scores were very good this week and most players credit the excellent course conditions. Also, ten of these seniors got their drives on the seventh green to earn extra points. Shot of the day was by Jim Dumelle who got his drive on the par four green on the

fourth hole. The hidden hole for an extra point was the par five first hole. Next week will be a four man Vegas scramble format. Rio Vista Golf Course is in exceptional shape and is a real treat to play. The greens are getting faster every week and we may have to get the Stimp meter out. Hopefully the grounds crew will get the pins on the false fronts.

► NEWS BRIEF

Free physiotherapy

Bridges Community Health Centre locations

In Fort Erie and Port Colborne are offering free service for residents who have a physical condition that could benefit from physiotherapy but don't third party health insurance coverage.

For more information call Bridges Community Health Centre at 905-671-7621 in Fort Erie and 289-479-5017 in Port Colborne.

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Julie Jacsuk/Postmedia Network

Breaking Lucky won the 80th Prince of Wales Stakes at the Fort Erie Race Track last Tuesday, ridden by James McAleney.

Longshot comes from back of pack to win Fort Erie's top race

Berni Franke
Postmedia Network

Gunpowder Farms was No. 1 with a bullet at last Tuesday night's Prince of Wales Stakes at Fort Erie Race Track.

Breaking Lucky, trained by Reade Baker and ridden by James McAleney, came from the back of the seven-horse pack to catch up with front-runner Cut to the Chase and held off Queen's Plate winner Shaman Ghost to win the second jewel of Canadian thoroughbred racing's Triple Crown.

A 13-to-1 longshot at race time, Breaking Lucky, who finished fifth in the first leg of the Triple Crown, started the 1 3/16ths-mile race featuring some of the top three-year-olds in Canada second

from the outside on Fort Erie's dirt track.

Only Cut to the Chase, from the seventh post position, had further to run, but he set the pace for much of the richest race on Fort Erie's 40-day, but Breaking Lucky, starting back in the field, gained momentum to finish last night's eighth race in a time of 1:56.59.

The win was a first for Gunpowder Farms as well as for the trainer and the jockey.

McAleney was happy to reward Baker's faith in him with a victory.

"He supported me through thick and thin. He had other options, but he stuck with me," the jockey said.

The 45-year-old jockey from Fort St. John, B.C., knew Shaman Ghost was

gaining on Breaking Lucky and there was still plenty of racing before he could breathe a sigh of relief.

"It was really a long race. If I had more time, I would have been praying," he quipped.

Shaman Ghost's loss means Canadian thoroughbred racing will have to wait until at least next year to have another Triple Crown winner. The Queen's Plate winner was one victory away from becoming the first three-year-old on this side of the border to take all three jewels of the Triple Crown since Wando swept the Queen's Plate, Prince of Wales Stakes and Breeder's Stakes in 2003.

For the first time in five years, the second jewel of Canadian thoroughbred

racing's Triple Crown lived up to its name.

Not since Big Red Mike came down the Queen Elizabeth Way from Woodbine in 2010 has the owner of a Queen's Plate winner opted to race in the Prince of Wales Stakes.

Plate winners either get time off after pacing the field in the \$1-million first leg of the Triple Crown, or they enter races south of the border that might be more lucrative.

"With the exchange rate, anything in the \$350,000 to \$425,000 range could make some owners think twice about coming here," said Rick Cowan, chief operating officer of track owners the Fort Erie Live Racing Consortium.



Jockey James McAleney gestured after winning the 80th Prince of Wales Stakes aboard Breaking Lucky at the Fort Erie Race Track last Tuesday.

CONTINUED > PAGE 29

Longshot comes from back of pack to win Fort Erie's top race

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

The Prince of Wales is also the only Triple Crown race contested on a traditional dirt track, which is something that doesn't appeal to all trainers.

Cowan said while they may opt to compete in the Queen's Plate, which is run on Polytrack, or the Breeder's Stakes held on a grass surface, some trainers "just don't like the challenge of racing on dirt."

Only seven horses were entered in Tuesday night's race, down from last year's total of 10, but Cowan doesn't see that as an indication Triple Crown's second jewel has lost its lustre.

He said the quantity of the field is more than offset by the quality.

"The top three finishers from the Queen's Plate are here, it's a good competitive field," he said. "We could have asked for more. This is ideal."

In addition to Shaman Ghost, Queen's Plate runner-up Danish

Dynafarmer and Conquest Boogaloo, the third-place finisher, raced last night at Fort Erie.

Thanks to the controversial switch to Tuesday nights from Saturday afternoons, horses in the past few Prince of Wales Stakes have been spared from competing in the heat. With Niagara under a heat advisory, the field, and the fans, were especially grateful Tuesday for the later start.

However, that didn't prompt the change. Track ownership switched the start time for Fort Erie's race of the year to take advantage of less traffic on the Peace Bridge for fans coming from the U.S. and to avoid having to helicopter in jockeys from Woodbine for later races on the card.

"It was a gamble going from the Sunday to Tuesday, but it was worth it. We have the simulcast market to ourselves," Cowan said.

bernd.franke@sunmedia.ca
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Prince of Wales breaks records at track

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

Last Tuesday was a record-breaking night for horse racing in Fort Erie.

A crowd watched as Breaking Lucky came from last to spring a 13-1 upset in the fourth edition of the Prince of Wales Stakes, the second jewel of Canada's triple crown racing.

Jim Thibert, the racetrack's general manager, said the stands were filled with excited horse racing fans.

"We were up in attendance over the record-setting year we had last year," he said.

"We estimate about 13,000

people were there (last Tuesday). I believe we were able to squeeze in more people than we did last year. I estimate between 500 and 1,000 more people attended this year than last year."

According to Thibert, wagering at the racetrack was up about 1.76% with \$267,000 wagered. Food and beverage sales and program sales were up by 10% over last year, at \$71,000 and program sales were up 4% over last year.

He said remote wagering was down by 13% through North America but it was "still the second best day at Fort Erie Race Track."

"We didn't quite get as much remote betting as we expected. We also lost the coverage on TSN,"

Thibert said. "That's a big factor and we think that's what happened."

The coverage of the Prince of Wales Stakes was not aired live on TSN.

"The TSN coverage had some technical glitches just prior to and apparently throughout the race. The loss of satellite caused them to switch to a soccer game just before the race."

Thibert said he received phone calls from horse racing fans across Ontario and in the U.S. about the issue.

Races are held Sundays and Tuesday until Oct. 20.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

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Matt appears to be pretty young to be managing

a branch with 1,600 members and 7 employees.

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Matt is a Brock U grad who has been flying through financial courses (please don't make us list them all) and is currently working to achieve his Personal Financial Planner designation. Don't let his soft spoken nature fool you - Matt has earned an amazing reputation with his members as he listens and guides them to help them reach their life goals and grow their lives

Matt hails from all the way down the QEW - from the Rose City of Welland, and is a member of the Young Professionals Networking Group, a graduate of the Leadership Niagara Program and is very involved in raising funds and awareness for the Lincoln County Humane Society. Please join us in welcoming Matt to Fort Erie!

COME MEET MATT!

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Austin Gooder Special to The Times

Cannons Shortstop Kris Hodges has been a dynamic player this year as his bat and defense have been key to the team's great win total.

Cannons on a winning streak

Austin Gooder
Special to The Times

The Fort Erie Cannons steam rolled their way to another blowout win against the Thorold Fantoms at Oakes Park.

Having scored 14 runs last Wednesday, the Cannons have scored eight runs in six straight games and have won six games in a row in Niagara District Senior Men's Baseball Association Action.

The Cannons started the bottom of the first inning, already down by four runs to the light-hitting Fantoms club.

Starter Zak Gagnon surrendered the four runs in the first inning. He pitched into the second inning but Zak Porter relieved him to get out of a bases-loaded jam that threatened to push the Cannons even further behind.

Porter dominated for three and a half innings, striking out eight of the possible 10 hitters he faced. Porter has emerged as a useful complement to the team's ace Cam Hall. With the pair, the team should be able to

push deep into the playoffs.

Against the Fantoms, the whole team rallied around the dominant Porter.

Lead by the team's shortstop Kris Hodges, who went 4/5, the Cannons scored 14 unanswered runs to mercy the Fantoms in the sixth inning. NDRA rules stipulate that if a team is leading by 10 or more runs after the fifth inning that the winning team "mercedes" the other team.

Hodges has fit the bill perfectly as a leadoff man this season. His ability to get on base has created plenty of run-scoring opportunities for the power hitters deeper into the lineup. Pat Giampaolo, Nick Weglarz, Robin Kellar and others have all greatly benefited from Hodges' presence at the top of the lineup.

No one, however, seems to benefit more than Weglarz. He again bore the brunt of the Cannons offense, collecting three hits and driving in six runs in the rout.

"He's a beast," said team manager Justin Hall.

"He's unbelievable." Weglarz has played a huge part in the resurgence of the

Cannons this year. His presence in the lineup has pushed the Cannons' run total on the year to 135—15 more than the next closest team. Combined with their dominant pitching staff and their prolific offensive capabilities, it's not hard to see why they've soared up the standings.

With five games remaining for the team this season, the club is now only four points back of the first place Merritton Alliance and Niagara Falls Expos. The Cannons have a game against each of the three teams that currently reside ahead of them in the standings, so there's a real chance the club could finish the season in first place.

Hall will insist that their position heading into the playoffs isn't important, but finishing in first place gives them a distinct edge over the competition, as they'd be seeded up against the eighth place team in the league.

The Cannons hosted the Welland Pirates at Oakes Park Wednesday. For game results visit www.forterietimes.ca



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Julie Brady Special to The Times

Having fun on the soccer field

It's all about having fun and learning how to play the game in the Greater Fort Erie Minor Soccer under six division. The youths play three on three with no goalies to give each player more opportunity to kick the ball. From left, the Blue team, which includes James, Ella, Eli, Leo, Izzy and Reese, played the Black team on Aug. 1.



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Speaker: Wes Aarum Jr.



Wes (clearly a softer dude) is the only speaker who has been invited all five years to Church on the Beach. He is a College and Young Adult Pastor at the Chapel at Crosspoint where he leads a weekly gathering of more than 400 young adults. He is a featured speaker each year at Kingdom Sound and former drummer for the wildly popular 80's Christian Rock band, Honest Men is a passionate evangelist and loves to bring about the transforming power of the Gospel. He and his wife, Corrie, have two children Dylan and Lindsay. You can learn more about Wes at www.wesaarum.com

Worship Leader: DaMar Dowell and JCM



In 2009, the name "Jesus Controlled Music" was given to DaMar Dowell on prayer. In 2012, DaMar and his friends began hosting events in NY designed to share what God was doing through their energetic fire-dances. These events created a band. That was the genesis of Jesus Controlled Music (JCM). Since then, this uniquely gifted group of Buffalo area worship leaders and musicians has led people from every denomination, age group and ethnic background experience the same thing: Deeply intimacy with Jesus. JCM's debut album *Intimacy* was released in May of 2014.



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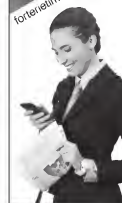
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Obituaries

Obituaries



MATURANI, G. Teresa - Teresa passed away at the Greater Niagara Falls General Hospital on Monday, July 27th in her 81st year. Beloved wife of the late Giovanni. Proud mother of Anna (Sandy) McQuiston and Louise Maturani. Cherished Nanna of Megan. Sadly missed by brothers, Lou (Jean) Cardilli, Biagio (Paola) Cardilli and sister Vincenzina (Alfredo) Cardilli. Also survived by her extended family and many friends in Canada, the USA and Italy. Predeceased by her 2 brothers and 1 sister in law, Natalie, Giulio and Clementina. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Avenue, Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family will receive friends on Thursday, July 30th from 5-8 pm with Vigil Prayers offered at 7:30 pm that evening. Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, July 31st at 11 am. Interment to follow at St. Joseph's Cemetery. If so desired, donations to the Activities Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

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events

WSEPTEMBER 3

Heart healthy eating

Discover foods to eat for a healthy heart. This program is helpful for people with high blood pressure, high cholesterol, heart problems or anyone who wants to learn about eating heart healthy. Thursday, September 3, 1:00-2:30pm at the YMCA.

SEPTEMBER 16

S.A.D. Workshop

Seasonal Affective Disorder is a recognized form of depression that is common to people living in cold climates. Learn more about this disorder and what you can do about it, before the dark, cold days of fall and winter are upon us again. The workshop will be held from 2-4 p.m. Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie, 1485 Garrison Road. Call 905-871-7621.

ONGOING

Diabetes Hot Topics

Learn new strategies for better management of your diabetes. September 3, Diabetes and Mental Health, both sessions are from 3-4 p.m. Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie, 1485 Garrison Road. Call 905-871-7621.

Brain Empowerment Team

We are a support group that meets weekly with the goal of transforming our brains through education, networking and mutual support for those who have neurological impairments and other health issues. We call ourselves B.E.T. Brain Empowerment Team. Meetings held every Thursday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information call 905-871-7510 or 905-871-1530.

Self confidence workshop

For people who tend to be hard on themselves, this full day workshop looks at the ineffective ways we attempt to protect or motivate ourselves with judgment or striving to do better, and provides exercises to increase our self-acceptance, self-care, and self-compassion. The session will be held on Tuesday, August 18, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., lunch provided. Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie, 1485 Garrison Road. Call 905-871-7621.

Keeping diabetes away

For those at risk of developing diabetes, nutrition and lifestyle management strategies to help prevent or delay diabetes. Wednesday, August 19 and September 23, 1:30-4 p.m. Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie, 1485 Garrison Road. Call 905-871-7621.

Quit smoking

Two-week workshop designed to help you quit smoking. Free nicotine replacement therapy available to eligible participants. New enrollees are offered the second Tuesday of most months, 8-7:30 p.m. Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie, 1485 Garrison Road. Call 905-871-7621.

Diabetes nordic pole walking group

For people with diabetes or at risk of developing diabetes. Lower your blood glucose level and improve your mood, sleep and energy levels by taking your walking to a new level. Weekly sessions held on Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Registration required. We meet on the Friendship Trail at Buffalo Rd. in Crescent Park. Call Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie at 905-871-7621.

Nordic pole walking

Take walking to a whole new level and enjoy the increased health benefits by adding Nordic poles. Open to everyone. Weekly sessions will be held every Friday, 8-10 a.m. Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie, 1485 Garrison Road. Call 905-871-7621.

Exercise card league

Every Tuesday at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 71 at 1:10 p.m. The card league is a

weekly fundraiser for Niagara Action for Autism. For more information call 905-871-7483.

Lifefree cafe

Each Thursday, people gather to discuss different topics about life and faith in a casual coffee house type setting. Admission to the 60 minute event is free. Lifefree Cafe is located at the Sanctuary Centre for the Arts, 209 Ridge Rd. North, Ridgeway 7-40 p.m.

Healthy you

Looking to make a change in your lifestyle and eating habits? Join us for an information session on Monday, September 21 at 3 p.m. If it's right for you, you will have the opportunity to register for our 8-week program, running September 28 - November 23. Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie, 1485 Garrison Road. Call 905-871-7621.

Dagang

A regime of physical movements and breathing techniques to relax the mind and optimize good health. The programs runs every Friday, 10-11 a.m. Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie, 1485 Garrison Road. Call 905-871-7621.

Healthy you support group

For those who have completed the 8-week

program, we meet monthly for added support, resources and support from a Registered Dietitian. August 31 and September 28, 4-5 p.m. Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie, 1485 Garrison Road. Call 905-871-7621.

Stress management for the heart

Learn more about the impact of emotions on heart health, and ways to cope with stress. Sessions available Wednesday, September 23 and 30, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie, 1485 Garrison Road. Call 905-871-7621.

Mindful living

A Mindfulness-based approach to coping can be of benefit to anyone and is proven to be helpful for people with chronic pain, anxiety or depression. An information/registration session will be held on Tuesday, September 22, 1-3:30 p.m. The 8-week program will start on Tuesday, October 6, 1-3:30 p.m. Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie, 1485 Garrison Road. Call 905-871-7621.

Lets get cooking

This monthly cooking class teaches basic skills to prepare quick and tasty, yet cost meals. Call Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie at 905-871-7621 for dates. We meet at the Salvation Army on Glenora Road.

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10 THINGS ABOUT WATERMELON

In Israel and Egypt, watermelon is often paired with feta cheese, for a sweet and salty snack.

Watermelon is a fruit & a vegetable. It's grown from a seed like a fruit, but also a member of the squash family.

A watermelon is more than **90%** water.

Watermelon is thought to have originated in ancient Egypt, close to 5,000 years ago, where it is depicted in hieroglyphics.

Watermelon is an excellent source of lycopene - a powerful carotenoid antioxidant that gives fruits and vegetables a pink or red colour. Some research shows lycopene can help to prevent heart disease, breast or prostate cancer.

Every part is edible, even the seeds and rind.

Eating watermelon can help fight inflammation associated with asthma, diabetes, colon cancer or arthritis.

There are over **1,200** varieties grown worldwide.

When trying to find the most flavourful watermelon, look for a pale, buttery-yellow spot on the bottom (not white or green). This is where the watermelon sits on the ground and it is one of the best indicators of ripeness.

Watermelon is high in fibre and vitamins A & C and doesn't contain any fat or cholesterol.



Sources: thebarnish.com, npr.com

Photo: iStock

Where are they?

Somewhere on this page we've hidden 8 slices of watermelon.

CAN YOU FIND IT?



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Top albums downloaded on iTunes



- 1 Hozier
Beneath the Skin
Of Monsters and Men
- 2 Love Stuff
Elle King
- 3 Kill the Lights
Luke Bryan
- 4 X (Deluxe Edition)
Ed Sheeran
- 5

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Fastest growing facebook pages (Canada, last week)



- 1 Joy Edwards
+275,415
- 2 Fashion Style Mag
+90,428
- 3 Taryn Maria
+72,457
- 4 Cheech and Chong
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- 5 The Weeknd
+55,713

Source: SocialBakers

▶ IT'S A FACT:

In 2010, Abel Tesfaye kickstarted his music career by anonymously uploading several songs to YouTube using the name "THE WEEKND".

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